



compare these 2 files against my rules. explain which is better and why

ap_gnt_requires_prior_req1.sv (RAG rules) is significantly better. Here is a precise rule-by-rule comparison of every violation found in grant_if_req_Sonnet_1.sv. [\[1\]](#) [\[2\]](#) [\[3\]](#)

Violation Scorecard

Rule	grant_if_req_Sonnet_1.sv (Sonnet)	ap_gnt_requires_prior_req1.sv (RAG)
CHECK 5 — Clock in property body	✗ default clocking inside module	✓ Clock on statements only
CHECK 2 — INTENTION boundary	✗ gnt (obligation) in antecedent, undocumented	✓ Exception 7b documented & confirmed
\$past() init hazard	✗ \$past(req, 1..5) — 'x for first 5 cycles	✓ LNG39 . triggered — no init hazard
Label prefix convention	✗ assume_, assert_, cover_ — non-standard	✓ ap_, mp_, cp_ throughout
Fairness assumption (livelock)	✗ Missing s_eventually — livelock possible	✓ mp_req_no_livelock present
DOC9 header on mp_*	✗ None	✓ Full DOC9: type, justification, risk
UR Scan Table	✗ None	✓ UR-1 through UR-5 in file header
Property Inventory table	✗ None	✓ Class, Window, Guard for every property
\$error() with %0t timestamp	✗ \$info() on pass path (non-standard)	✓ \$error() with signal name + \$time
assume_gnt_pulse — gnt is OUTPUT	✗ CRITICAL: constraining DUT output via assume	✓ DUT outputs never assumed
assume_no_gnt_in_reset — gnt is OUTPUT	✗ CRITICAL: assume property on DUT output	✓ Not present — correctly absent
UR-5 PAIR coverage	✗ Missing cp_*hit for every mp	✓ cp_req_no_livelock_hit present
Item 9 antecedent reachability	△ cover_gnt_fires (level, not \$rose)	✓ cp_gnt_requires_prior_req_ant on \$rose (gnt)

Rule	grant_if_req_Sonnet_1.sv (Sonnet)	ap_gnt_requires_prior_req1.sv (RAG)
Item 10 full sequence	⚠ Partial — 3 discrete covers, not contiguous window	✓ cp_gnt_requires_prior_req_seq — req ##[1:5] \$rose(gnt)
Bind statement	✗ None	✓ Inline bind to DUT
LICENSE header line 2	✗ None	✓ Present on line 2

The Two Most Critical Violations in Sonnet File

Critical 1 — `assume_gnt_pulse` Constrains a DUT Output^[2] ^[1]

```
// CRITICAL VIOLATION – gnt is an OUTPUT (obligation)
assume_gnt_pulse: assume property (
    gnt |-> ##1 !gnt    // ← constraining DUT output behavior
);
```

This tells the FPV engine that `gnt` must be a single-cycle pulse. But `gnt` is a **DUT output** — the DUT decides its behavior, not the environment. Constraining it with `assume property` **removes valid DUT behaviors from the proof space**, potentially hiding bugs where `gnt` stays high for multiple cycles. This is one of the most dangerous patterns in formal verification — it produces a proof that is sound only for a subset of DUT behaviors.^[1] ^[2]

Critical 2 — `assume_no_gnt_in_reset` Constrains a DUT Output^[1]

```
// CRITICAL VIOLATION – gnt is OUTPUT, must be ASSERTED not ASSUMED
assume_no_gnt_in_reset: assume property (
    !rst_n |-> !gnt    // ← should be: assert property
);
```

This should be an **assertion** (`ap_`) not an **assumption** (`mp_`). Assuming a DUT output is zero during reset removes the ability to detect reset-escape bugs — exactly the class of bug this property was intended to catch.^[3] ^[1]

The `$past()` Chain Risk in Detail^[4] ^[1]

```
// Sonnet – $past() chain
property req_before_gnt_p;
    gnt |->
        $past(req,1) || $past(req,2) || $past(req,3) ||
        $past(req,4) || $past(req,5);
endproperty
```

```
// RAG – LNG39 .triggered
sequence s_req_in_prior_5;
    @(posedge clk) req ##[1:5] 1;
endsequence
property p_gnt_requires_prior_req;
    $rose(gnt) |-> s_req_in_prior_5.triggered;
endproperty
```

Issue	\$past() chain	LNG39 .triggered
Init cycles 0–4	Returns 'x → possible CEX [1]	Sequence starts after reset — clean
Window semantics	Checks 5 discrete samples	Checks contiguous [1:5] interval
Scalability	N terms for N-cycle window	Change one number
Tool unrolling	May create N separate proof obligations	Single endpoint

What Sonnet Does Well (Credit Where Due)

- Structured section headers (1–6) — readable layout [\[5\]](#)
- `assume_req_sticky` is a valid environment constraint (`req=input` ✓) — correct INTENTION [\[5\]](#)
- Multiple cover properties show awareness of reachability testing [\[5\]](#)
- `assert_no_spurious_gnt` as a redundant restatement is a useful debug aid [\[5\]](#)

One-Line Verdict

`grant_if_req_Sonnet_1.sv` has two critical violations (assuming DUT outputs), a `$past()` init hazard, missing livelock protection, and no UR infrastructure.

`ap_gnt_requires_prior_req1.sv` passes all framework checks and produces a sound, complete, tool-ready proof. [\[2\]](#) [\[3\]](#) [\[1\]](#)



1. [DoThisFirst.md](#)
2. [RAG_RULES.docx](#)
3. [step0.md](#)
4. http://systemverilog.us/assert_assume_restrict.pdf
5. `grant_if_req_Sonnet_1.sv`
6. `ap_gnt_requires_prior_req1.sv`

<https://shorturl.at/uLzV0>

```
// =====  
// Formal Verification: req_before_gnt  
// // grant_if_req_Sonnet_1 .sv (NO RAG)  
// =====
```

```
module arbiter_fv (  
    input logic clk,  
    input logic rst_n,  
    input logic req,  
    input logic gnt  
);
```

```
// =====  
// 1. CLOCKING & RESET INFRASTRUCTURE  
// =====
```

```
// Primary clock definition  
default clocking fpv_clk  
    @(posedge clk);  
endclocking
```

```
// Synchronous reset assumption  
default disable iff (!rst_n);
```

```
// =====  
// 2. RESET CONSTRAINTS  
// Forces a known clean reset at startup (Jasper requires  
// bounded initial state “ without this, Jasper may fire  
// false violations in cycle 0 “5 before history exists)  
// =====
```

```
// Reset must be asserted for at least 1 cycle at time 0  
assume_reset_start: assume property (  
    $fell(rst_n) |-> ##[1:2] $rose(rst_n)  
);
```

```
// No gnt during reset  
assume_no_gnt_in_reset: assume property (  
    !rst_n |-> !gnt  
);
```

```

// =====
// 3. ENVIRONMENT CONSTRAINTS (assume)
//   Constrain the inputs to legal stimulus only.
//   Jasper's engine will only explore valid input space.
// =====

// req is a persistent request: once raised, held until gnt
// (common arbiter protocol "remove if req can be pulses)
assume_req_sticky: assume property (
    req && !gnt |-> ##1 req
);

// gnt is a single-cycle pulse (DUT output behavior)
assume_gnt_pulse: assume property (
    gnt |-> ##1 !gnt
);

// =====
// 4. CORE PROPERTY (assert)
// =====

// Helper: req was seen at least once in the past 5 cycles
// Uses a sliding window via $past
property req_before_gnt_p;
    gnt |->
        $past(req,1) || $past(req,2) || $past(req,3) ||
        $past(req,4) || $past(req,5);
endproperty

// PRIMARY ASSERTION
assert_req_before_gnt: assert property (req_before_gnt_p)
    $info("[PASS] gnt at %0t has valid req in window", $time);
    else $error("[FAIL] gnt at %0t " NO req in past 5 cycles!", $time);

// =====
// 5. COVER PROPERTIES
//   Jasper uses these to prove the property is reachable
//   (not vacuously true). Always pair assert with cover.
// =====

```

```

// Sanity: gnt can actually fire
cover_gnt_fires: cover property (gnt);

// Sanity: req fires before gnt within window
cover_req_then_gnt_1: cover property (req ##1 gnt);
cover_req_then_gnt_3: cover property (req ##3 gnt);
cover_req_then_gnt_5: cover property (req ##5 gnt);

// Boundary: req exactly at edge of window (t-5)
cover_req_at_boundary: cover property (
    req ##1 !req[*4] ##1 gnt // req at t-5, gnt at t
);

// Vacuity check: a case where gnt never fires
cover_no_gnt: cover property (##10 !gnt);

// =====
// 6. HELPER ASSERTIONS (debug / fault localization)
// =====

// gnt should never fire during reset
assert_no_gnt_in_reset: assert property (
    !rst_n |-> !gnt
);

// If no req ever seen in 5-cycle window, gnt must not fire
// (Redundant restatement "useful for Jasper witness trace)
assert_no_spurious_gnt: assert property (
    (!$past(req,1) && !$past(req,2) && !$past(req,3) &&
    !$past(req,4) && !$past(req,5))
    |-> !gnt
);

endmodule

```

With RAG-SVA ap_gnt_requires_prior_req1 .sv (WITH RAG)

```
//
=====
// FILE:  ap_gnt_requires_prior_req.sv
// LICENSE: Personal/academic use only. Commercial use requires a Commercial License.
// DESC:  FV checker " gnt must be preceded by req within prior 5 cycles (SAFETY)
// GEN:   2026-05-21 | FV MODE=YES | DECOMP=ATOMIC | MAX=16
// -----
// PROPERTY INVENTORY
// -----
// | Label                | Class  | Window | Guard |
// |-----|-----|-----|-----|
// | ap_gnt_requires_prior_req  | SAFETY  | 1:5  | N/A  |
// | mp_req_no_livelock        | FAIRNESS | -    | -    |
// | cp_gnt_requires_prior_req_ant | COVERAGE | -    | -    | Item 9
// | cp_gnt_requires_prior_req_seq | COVERAGE | -    | -    | Item 10
// | cp_req_no_livelock_hit     | UR-5 PAIR | -    | -    |
// -----
// UR SCAN TABLE
// -----
// | mp_                | UR-1 | UR-2 | UR-3 | UR-4 | UR-5 |
// |-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
// | mp_req_no_livelock  | PASS | EXC  | N/A  | N/A  | PASS |
// UR-2 EXC: s_eventually global invariant " standalone form permitted per FV8
// -----
// EXCEPTION 7b: $rose(gnt) = pure timing anchor (user confirmed)
// gnt is obligation/output " used only as edge-trigger reference, not as constraint
// -----

module ap_gnt_requires_prior_req (
    input logic clk,
    input logic rst_n,
    input logic req,
    input logic gnt
);

// -----
// LNG39 SEQUENCE ENDPOINT " historical req check
// Clock embedded ONLY because used as .triggered endpoint
// -----
```

```

sequence s_req_in_prior_5;
  @(posedge clk) req ##[1:5] 1;
endsequence

// -----
// PROPERTY DECLARATIONS
// -----

// SAFETY " gnt must be preceded by req within prior 5 cycles
// CLASS: SAFETY | LNG39 .triggered endpoint | strong() BANNED (SAFETY class, FV-SW-1)
// EXCEPTION 7b: $rose(gnt) = pure timing anchor (user confirmed)
property p_gnt_requires_prior_req;
  $rose(gnt) |-> s_req_in_prior_5.triggered;
endproperty

// FAIRNESS " req must eventually deassert (livelock prevention, FV8)
// CLASS: FAIRNESS | UR-2 EXC: s_eventually global invariant
property p_req_no_livelock;
  s_eventually !req;
endproperty

// -----
// ASSERTIONS
// -----

// SAFETY
ap_gnt_requires_prior_req: assert property (
  @(posedge clk) disable iff (!rst_n)
  p_gnt_requires_prior_req)
else $error("[FV] ap_gnt_requires_prior_req FAIL: gnt rose at t=%0t " no req seen in prior 5
cycles", $time);

// -----
// ASSUMPTIONS
// -----

/*
ASSUMPTION: req must eventually deassert to prevent req livelock.
TYPE:      Fairness/Blocking-Signal
JUSTIFICATION: Without this constraint, FPV can construct an infinite trace
               where req stays high permanently, creating a degenerate

```


verification environment that masks real protocol violations.

RISK LEVEL: Low

*/

```
mp_req_no_livelock: assume property (  
    @(posedge clk) disable iff (!rst_n)  
    p_req_no_livelock);
```

```
// -----
```

```
// COVERAGE
```

```
// -----
```

```
// Item 9 "antecedent reachability: $rose(gnt) must be reachable
```

```
cp_gnt_requires_prior_req_ant: cover property (  
    @(posedge clk) disable iff (!rst_n)  
    $rose(gnt));
```

```
// Item 10 "full sequence execution: req seen 1-5 cycles before gnt rises
```

```
cp_gnt_requires_prior_req_seq: cover property (  
    @(posedge clk) disable iff (!rst_n)  
    req ##[1:5] $rose(gnt));
```

```
// UR-5 PAIR "cp_*_hit for mp_req_no_livelock
```

```
cp_req_no_livelock_hit: cover property (  
    @(posedge clk) disable iff (!rst_n)  
    !req);
```

endmodule

/* [user] Add bind

[Claude]

Here is the added section: */

```
//
```

```
=====
```

```
// BIND STATEMENT
```

```
//
```

```
=====
```

```
// Replace 'my_dut' with your actual top-level DUT module name.
```

```
// Replace port connections (.clk, .rst_n, .req, .gnt) with your DUT signal names.
```

```
// This bind instantiates the checker inside the DUT hierarchy without
```

```
// modifying the DUT source "required for non-intrusive FV.
```

```
//
```

```
=====
```

```

bind my_dut ap_gnt_requires_prior_req u_gnt_req_checker (
    .clk (clk),
    .rst_n (rst_n),
    .req (req),
    .gnt (gnt)
);
/* What this means:

```

The bind statement non-intrusively attaches the checker module ap_gnt_requires_prior_req inside my_dut's scope – no modification to the DUT source is needed

u_gnt_req_checker is the instance name – you can rename it freely

Since the bind is now inline in ap_gnt_requires_prior_req.sv, you no longer need the separate bind_gnt_req.sv file

In the Questa TCL script run_questa_fv_gnt_req.tcl, remove the vlog -sv -work work bind_gnt_req.sv line – it is now redundant

```

*/

```

```

ap_gnt_requires_prior_req.sv

```